



News Release

Public Affairs and Corporate Communications Office
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Navy F-9 Communication Satellite Launch Delayed for Range Safety

CAPE CANAVERAL AIR STATION, Fla. – The launch of the U.S. Navy's ninth UHF Follow-On Communications satellite was scrubbed about 1:50 a.m. today to protect public safety. Range safety models indicated that upper level winds from the northeast would blow debris on Port Canaveral if the Atlas IIA flight were terminated shortly after launch.

After several days with intermittent rain showers in the area of the Cape, the skies cleared along the eastern central Florida coast and permitted the launch attempt. The Space Launch Complex 36A tower was rolled back on schedule at 12:11 a.m. by Lockheed Martin's International Launch Services and the Air Force's 3rd Space Launch Squadron.

The launch has been rescheduled for Tuesday, October 20th during a launch window of 3:09 to 5:09 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time. The forecast calls for a 60 percent chance of favorable weather for launch. Primary concerns for launch include rain squalls and cumulus cloud formations in the path of flight. Air Force weather forecasters are providing regular updates to the launch team.

For more information contact:

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